

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method for task execution based on dialog-based communication with a communication service, comprising:

receiving dialog from a user, the dialog being  
directed to a simulated entity;

analyzing the dialog to identify a command; ~~and~~  
performing a task on the user's behalf based on the  
command; ~~and~~

determining whether the user is authorized to utilize  
the application necessary to complete the task,  
and performing the task only if the user is  
authorized-;

presenting the user with an opportunity to become  
authorized when the user is not authorized to  
utilize the application necessary to complete the  
task; and

wherein presenting the user with an opportunity to  
become authorized comprises presenting the user  
with an opportunity to purchase access.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein analyzing the dialog to identify a command comprises analyzing the dialog to determine which of a variety of applications is necessary to complete the task.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising utilizing the simulated entity to participate in dialog interaction with the user to guide the user in the production of said dialog.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein utilizing the simulated entity to participate in dialog interaction with the user comprises:

presenting the user with a plurality of choices; and  
receiving from the user a selection of one of the  
plurality of choices.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein performing a task on the user's behalf comprises performing a task tailored to the selection of one of the plurality of choices.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein performing a task on the user's behalf comprises performing a task tailored to a parameter listed in a profile associated with the user.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein performing a task on the user's behalf comprises performing a task tailored to a preference associated with the user.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the preference is set by the user.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the preference is automatically set based on a history of user interactions with the simulated entity.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising determining a geographic location of a device with which the user is communicating with the communication service.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein performing a task on the user's behalf comprises performing a task tailored to the geographic location.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the communication service is an instant message communication service, and wherein receiving dialog from the user comprises receiving instant message dialog.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the dialog is directed to a specialized buddy appearing on an instant messaging buddy list associated with the user.

17. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the communication service is a text messaging communication service, and wherein receiving dialog from the user comprises receiving text messaging dialog.

18. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the communication service is an email transport service, and wherein receiving dialog from a user comprises receiving an email addressed to the specialized recipient.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein analyzing the dialog to identify a command comprises parsing a textual content of the email.

20. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the communication service is an automated telephone system, and wherein receiving dialog from a user comprises receiving speech communication.

21. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein analyzing the dialog to identify a command comprises analyzing the dialog to identify a keyword.

22. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein performing a task on the user's behalf comprises interfacing with a software application on behalf of the user to perform a task.

23. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein performing a task on the user's behalf comprises sending an action command to instruct a software application to take action on the user's behalf.

24. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein performing a task on the user's behalf comprises interfacing with a calendar software application.

25. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein execution of the command is contingent upon a set of predetermined circumstances, and wherein performing a task on the user's behalf comprises performing a task when the predetermined set of circumstances have occurred.

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